

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 L-02 OC-05 CCO-00 CIAE-00

OTPE-00 EB-07 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00

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----- 107855

O P 211145Z JAN 75Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1776

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 0306

STATE PASS IRAC HUFFCUT: USIA PASS CATHERMAN

BUCHAREST FOR KOPP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL YO

SUBJECT: AFN INTERFERENCE ISSUE

REF : BELGRADE 0291

1. WHEN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED SARAJEVO IC OPENING WITH
BERISAVLJEVIC (REFTTEL) LATTER STRESSED THAT BOSNIANS
FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT AFN INTERFERENCE ISSUE, PARTICULARLY
IN REGARD TO LIMITATION ON THEIR ABILITY TO BROADCAST
TO FRG?

2. BERISAVLJEVIC SAID YUGOSLAVS WOULD BE TAKING
ISSUE UP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES BROADCASTING ON FREQUENCY,
BUT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL" IF AMBASSADOR AND KOPP COULD
TAKE POSITIVE POSITION ON ISSUE DURING SARAJEVO VISIT.
BERISVLJEVIC SAID A GOODWILL GESTURE WOULD BE VERY WELCOME AND
HELPFUL.

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3. AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT EMBASSY COMPETENT ONLY TO ADDRESS QUESTION OF INTERFERENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA, THAT WE HAD TAKEN CERTAIN STEPS TO REDUCE POWER AND WE THOUGHT THAT THE PROBLEM HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT ALLEVIATED. BARISAVLJEVIC REPLIED THAT THIS WAS TRUE AND THAT THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES WERE VERY APPRECIATIVE.

4. AMBASSADOR CONTINUED THAT THE EMBASSY WAS NOT HOWEVER COMPETENT TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF YUGOSLAVIA. THE YUGOSLAVS CLAIM EXCLUSIVE USE OF THIS FREQUENCY BUT OUR AUTHORITIES IN GERMANY MAINTAIN THAT WE HAVE AN EQUAL LEGAL CLAIM ON ITS USE. THIS THEREFORE IS A QUESTION THAT WILL HAVE TO BE DECIDED ELSEWHERE.

5. IN CLOSING BERISAVLJEVIC REITERATED HIS HOPE THAT SOME CONSTRUCTIVE OR GOOD WILL GESTURE COULD BE MADE, AND AMBASSADOR IN TURN REITERATED THAT WITH REGARD TO BROADCASTING OUTSIDE BORDER OF YUGOSLAVIA THE MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE SETTLED ELSEWHERE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: IT WILL BE MOST HELPFUL, AND UNDOUBTEDLY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE SARAJEVO IC GETTING OFF TO A GOOD START, IF AMBASSADOR AND KOPP CAN DO MORE THAN REITERATE PREVIOUS FORMULATIONS IN SARAJEVO DISCUSSIONS. REQUEST DEPT REVIEW SITUATION TO DATE AND INFORM WHETHER THERE IS ANYTHING MORE WHICH CAN CONSTRUCTIVELY BE SAID AT THIS JUNCTURE, IN TERMS OF THE GESTURE BERISAVLJEVIC SUGGESTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IS THERE ANYTHING WHICH CAN BE SAID NOW ABOUT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS WHICH WOULD INDICATE THE US IS PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH THE YUGOSLAVS IN SOLVING THEIR PROBLEM? REQUEST REPLY IMMEDIATE SINCE PARTY WILL DEPART FOR SARAJEVO AFTERNOON JAN 22. TOON

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